

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

21 December 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: December 18, 2006

Conditions Report

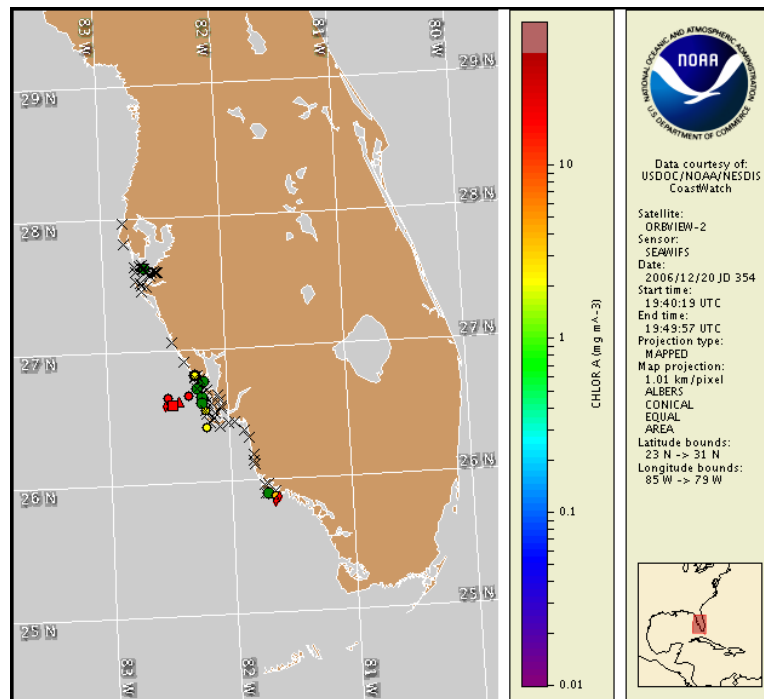
A harmful algal bloom has been identified in patches from Sarasota to Collier Counties and in Monroe County. No impacts are expected in Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Monroe and northern Collier Counties today through Sunday. In central Collier, no impacts are expected today, followed by patchy low impacts possible Friday through Sunday.

Analysis

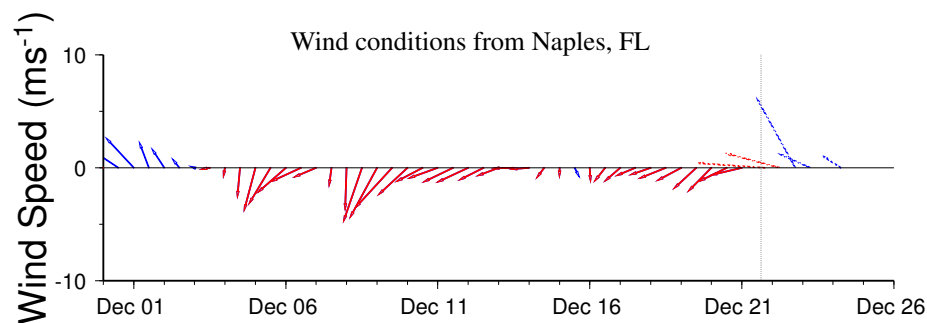
A harmful algal bloom continues to be present in patches alongshore of Sarasota to northern Lee Counties and has been reported at low concentrations alongshore of central Collier County (12/19 FWRI; 12/21 MML). Satellite imagery is currently obscured by clouds and limits analysis. Consistent southeast to southerlies winds may maintain bloom location offshore of Lee County and may increase impacts in central Collier County. Continued offshore sampling is recommended.

In the Florida Keys region, *K. brevis* samples range from very low to medium concentrations on the gulf side of the lower Keys (12/19 FWRI). Satellite imagery has been obscured by clouds and limits analysis. Slight southerly transport is possible. Consistent southeasterly winds may minimize impacts along the coast.

~Fenstermacher & Urizar



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration categories and corresponding cell count values from Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. For a key to the cell concentration descriptions, visit <http://research.myfwc.com>. Cell concentration sampling data from December 11-20 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



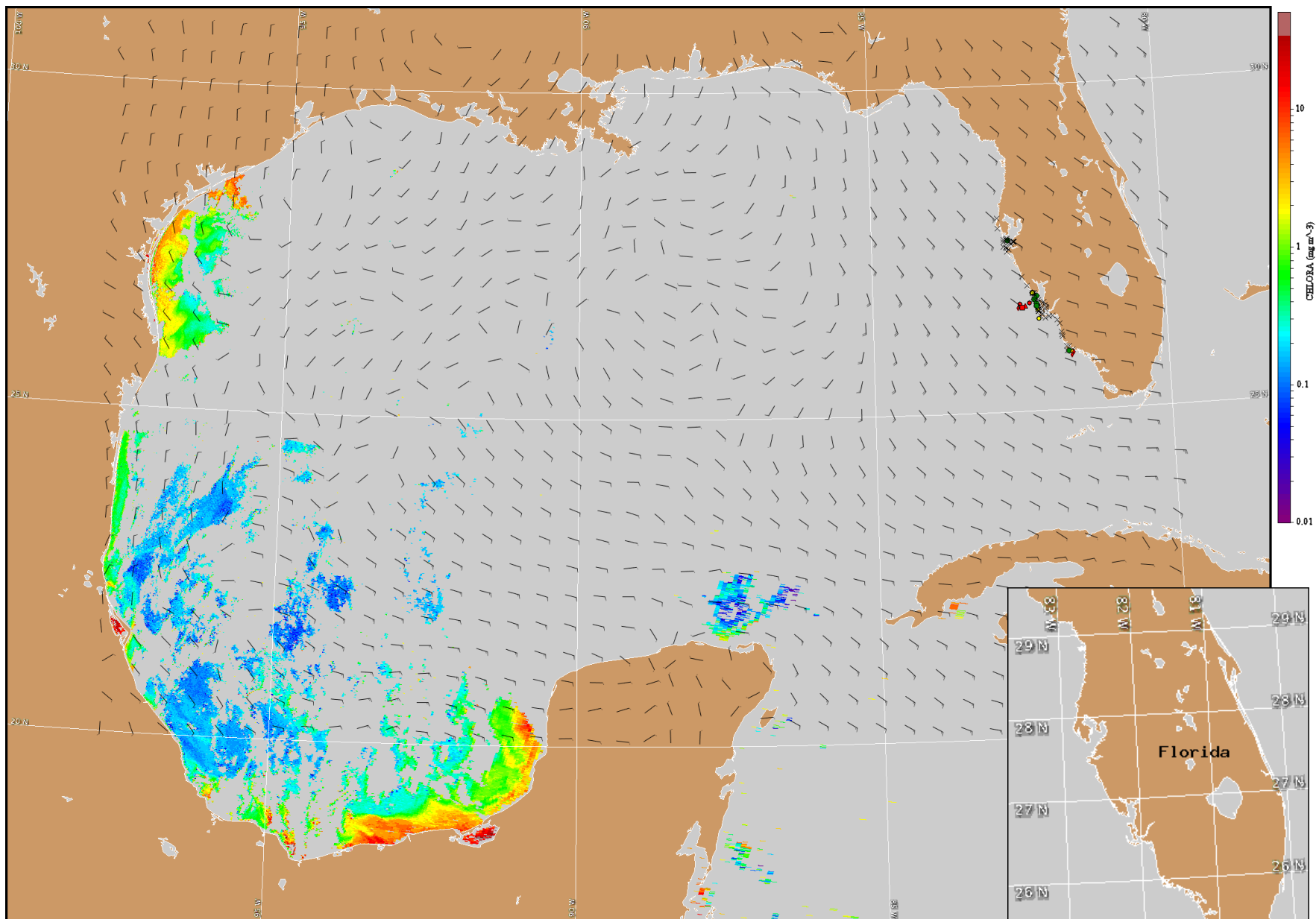
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: East to southeast winds today and Friday (10-15 knots; 5-8 m/s) followed by south to southeast winds Friday night through Sunday (5-15 knots; 3-8 m/s).

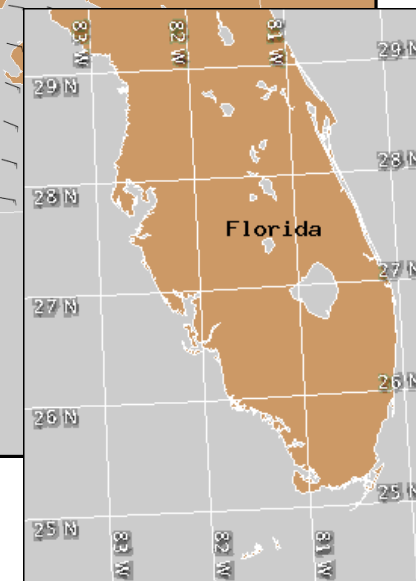
Keys: Easterly winds today followed by southeasterlies Friday through Saturday (15-20 knots; 8-10 m/s). Southeast to southerlies on Sunday (15 knots; 8 m/s).

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive GeoEye approval via the CoastWatch Program.

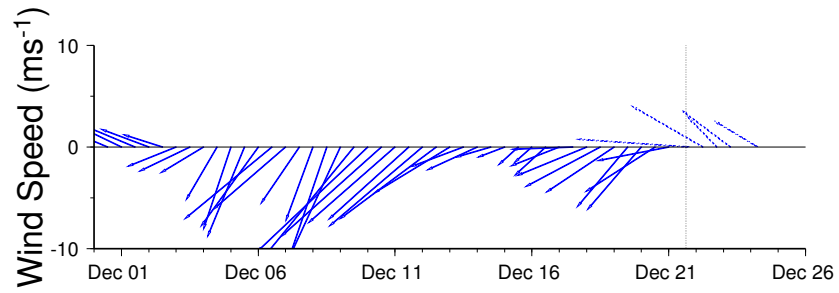


Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for December 22, 2006 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from December 11-20 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Sand Key, FL



Wind conditions from Venice Pier, FL

